



Practitioner's Docket No. U 015030-0

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application

of \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventor(s)

for \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of invention

OR

In re application of: KAZUHIRO OKADA, et al

Serial No.: 10/777,530

Group No.: - -

Filed: FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Examiner.: - -

For: FORCE DETECTOR

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR  
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b))

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) and 1.10\*

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37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

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WILLIAM R. EVANS

(type or print name of person certifying)

Date: March 11, 2004

\* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(b):

- (1) Each U.S. patent listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by inventor, patent number, and issue date.
- (2) Each U.S. patent application published listed in an information disclosure statement shall be identified by applicant, patent application publication number, and publication date.
- (3) Each U.S. application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the inventor, application number, and filing date.
- (4) Each foreign patent or published foreign patent application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the country or patent office which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application.
- (5) Each publication listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by publisher, author (if any), title, relevant pages of the publication, date, and place of publication.

**WARNING:** No extension of time can be had under 37 C.F.R. § 1.36 (a) or (b) for filing an IDS. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(f).

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(2).

## IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

**NOTE:** *“An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1.” Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

**WARNING:** *“A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner.” Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).*

If a fee is required, please charge deposit account 12-0425.

JH Chen, Ely No. 25, & 58  
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No. 20,302

JULIAN H. COHEN

(type or print name of practitioner)

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26 WEST 61<sup>ST</sup> STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: KAZUHIRO OKADA, et al

Serial No.: 10/777,530

Group No.: - -

Filed: FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Examiner.: - -

For: FORCE DETECTOR



Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

We draw the attention of the Examiner to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

We also draw the attention of the Examiner to the following Okada co-pending applications: 09/885,620 filed on June 20, 2001; 10/022,580 filed on December 17, 2001; 10/247,771 filed on September 19, 2002; 10/247,772 filed on September 19, 2002; 10/298,275 filed on November 15, 2002; 10/313,125 filed on December 5, 2002; 10/419,610 filed on April 21, 2003 and 10/619,965 filed July 15, 2003.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) and 1.10\***

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**37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

☒ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

**37 C.F.R. 1.10\***

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☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: March 11, 2004

Signature

WILLIAM R. EVANS

(type or print name of person certifying)

**\*WARNING:** Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. 1.10(b).

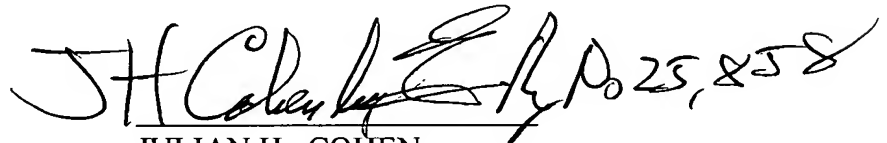
"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

The application was filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. Applications are not being furnished according to the notification by Stephen G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patents Examination Policy, on July 11, 2003.

Additionally, we draw the attention of the Examiner to the attached Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-132012 (Publication No. 2001-311671) which is considered in the specification and which is also listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

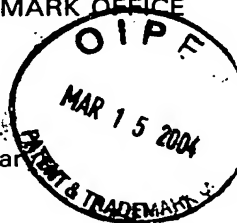
The applicant's overseas representatives believes that the Japanese publication discloses a force sensor using an elastic deformable body (C1-C5 having conductivity and a resistance body (R1 - R5). This sensor detects a force based on variations of a resistance value of the resistance body. It does not disclose a switching element to suppress power consumption, which is a characterizing feature of the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JH Cohen by [illegible] No. 25,858". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

JULIAN H. COHEN  
LADAS & PARRY  
26 WEST 61<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023  
REG.NO.20,302(212)708-1887

FORM PTO-1449 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>U 015030-0</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/777,530</b>
	APPLICANT <b>Kazuhiro OKADA, et al.</b>	
	FILING DATE <b>February 12, 2004</b>	GROUP



REFERENCE DESIGNATION				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,905,523	3/1990	Okada	73	862.04	
	AB	4,967,605	11/1990	Okada	73	862.04	
	AC	4,969,366	11/1990	Okada	73	862.08	
	AD	5,014,415	5/1991	Okada	29	621.1	
	AE	5,035,148	7/1991	Okada	73	862.04	
	AF	5,092,645	3/1992	Okada	294	86.4	
	AG	5,182,515	1/1993	Okada	324	259	
	AH	5,263,375	11/1993	Okada	73	862.042	
	AI	5,295,386	3/1994	Okada	73	1 D	
	AJ	5,343,765	9/1994	Okada	73	862.043	
	AK	5,365,799	11/1994	Okada	73	862.041	
	AL	5,392,658	2/1995	Okada	73	862.043	
	AM	5,406,848	4/1995	Okada	73	517 R	
	AN	5,421,213	6/1995	Okada	73	862.043	
	AO	5,437,196	8/1995	Okada	73	862.043	
	AP	5,492,020	2/1996	Okada	73	862.626	
	AQ	5,497,668	3/1996	Okada	73	862.626	
	AR	5,531,002	7/1996	Okada	29	25.41	
	AS	5,531,092	7/1996	Okada	73	1 D	
	AT	5,571,972	11/1996	Okada	73	862.043	
	AU	5,639,973	6/1997	Okada	73	862.043	
	AV	5,646,346	7/1997	Okada	73	504.04	
	AW	5,668,318	9/1997	Okada	73	504.11	
	AX	5,682,000	10/1997	Okada	73	862.043	
	AY	5,744,718	4/1998	Okada	73	514.33	
	AZ	5,780,749	7/1998	Okada	73	862.043	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> <b>U. S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b>	<b>SERIAL NO.</b>
	<b>U 015030-0</b>	<b>10/777,530</b>
	<b>APPLICANT</b>	
	<b>Kazuhiro OKADA, et al.</b>	
	<b>FILING DATE</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
	<b>February 12, 2004</b>	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,811,693	9/1998	Okada	73	862.043	
	AB	5,831,163	11/1998	Okada	73	504.12	
	AC	5,850,040	12/1998	Okada	73	504.04	
	AD	5,856,620	1/1999	Okada	73	514.32	
	AE	5,962,787	10/1999	Okada et al.	73	514.32	
	AF	5,987,985	11/1999	Okada	73	504.04	
	AG	6,003,371	12/1999	Okada	73	504.02	
	AH	6,053,057	4/2000	Okada	73	862.043	
	AI	6,076,401	6/2000	Okada	73	504.12	
	AJ	6,098,461	8/2000	Okada	73	514.34	
	AK	6,158,291	12/2000	Okada	73	862.043	
	AL	6,159,761	12/2000	Okada	438	53	
	AM	6,185,814	2/2001	Okada	29	621.1	
	AN	6,205,856	3/2001	Okada	73	504.11	
	AO	6,269,697	8/2001	Okada	73	504.02	
	AP	6,282,956	9/2001	Okada	73	504.12	
	AQ	6,314,823	11/2001	Okada	73	862.043	
	AR	6,367,326	4/2002	Okada	73	504.12	
	AS	6,378,381	4/2002	Okada et al.	73	862.043	
	AT	6,474,133	11/2002	Okada	73	1.38	
	AU	6,477,903	11/2002	Okada	73	862.043	
	AV	6,512,364	1/2003	Okada	324	158.1	
	AW	6,530,283	3/2003	Okada et al.	73	780	
	AX	6,313,826	11/2001	Schrum et al.	345	161	
	AY	2001/0011994	8/2001	Morimoto et al.	345	156	
	AZ	5,948,990	9/1999	Hashida	73	725	

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM PTO-1449	U. S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>U 015030-0</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>10/777,530</b>
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT  <b>Kazuhiro OKADA, et al.</b>	
		FILING DATE <b>February 12, 2004</b>	GROUP

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,440,237	8/1995	Brown et al.	
	AB	4,793,193	12/1998	Borgudd	
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				
	AJ				
	AK				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AL	2001-311671	11/2001	JP		X
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Dates, Etc.)	
	AR
	AS
	AT

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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